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ZOOLOGY.

The Molluscs of the Water Mains of Paris.—M. Locard has made a study of the malacological fauna of the water mains of Paris as represented in the material now in the possession of the Geneva Museum. The author finds that the collection embraces 44 species referable to 13 genera. Among them are four new species, *Dreissensia paradoxa, D. curta, D. tumida* and *Amnicola lutetiana.* Neither Unios or Anodontas are found. The author attributes their absence to the absence of fish to which the larvæ of these species are in the habit of attaching themselves.

M. Locard notices four modifications of the molluscs in the water mains of Paris from the original types whose habitat is in the waters supplying these mains. (1) Diminution of size, due to absence of light. (2) Decrease of coloration owing to the same cause. (3) Modifications of form, generally a lengthening of the shell, due to the mechanical action of a steady, rapid current. (4) Appearance of the shells. They are polished, brilliant, uniform, developing with regularity in a constant medium. (Revue Scientifique, Oct., 1893).

The Orthopterous Insects of the Galapagos Islands.—The various collections of orthopterous insects, the result of nine different explorations of the Galapagos Islands, have been examined by Mr. Samuel Scudder, and form the subject of a paper published in the Bull. Harv. Mus. Comp. Zool., Vol. XXV. The author notes the poverty of this Orthopteran fauna. In all there are but 25 species, of which 5 are cock-roaches, which can in no sense be considered endemic. The remaining 15 include 7 new species, and are all South and Central American in their affinities. A large proportion of the forms are incapable of flight, which can be accounted for only on the supposition that the Galapagos are of recent origin, and that the present Orthopteran fauna is derived from the chance advent of pregnant females from the nearest shore, or the shores which currents of the ocean practically make the nearest. The insect incapable of flight would stand the best chance of reaching the island, since it would have less inclination to leave its floating refuge, and thus the exceptional proportion of subapterous forms is explained.

An Axillary Pocket in Certain Chameleons.—In examining a collection of Reptiles sent from Madagascar to the Natural History

Museum of Paris, M. Mocquard discovered a pocket in the armpit of certain species of Chameleons, a character hitherto unnoticed. This pocket is formed by the invagination of the skin, and is about 4 mm. in depth, with an orifice of 2 mm. in diameter, varying slightly in size in different species.

This character appears to be constant in certain species only of Chameleons peculiar to Madagascar and the neighboring islands of Mauritius and Bourbon, for it does not appear in all of them, nor is it found in the Chameleons of the Continent, except in *C. vulgaris* in which a rudimentary pocket can be discerned. It is found also in *Rampheoleon spectrum,* a west African species, while not a trace of the character can be seen in *R. kerstenii,* which belongs on the eastern coast.

M. Mocquard considers this character of specific importance, and recommends its use in determining different species of Chameleons. (Compte-rendu Soc. Philom., Paris, July, 1893.)

The Origin of the Human Face.—In two short essays entitled The Origin and Evolution of the Human Face and Descent of Facial Expression, Dr. Alton H. Thompson gives a compilation of the literature of the subject with some original notes. His comments are intelligent and show a just appreciation of the idea of evolution. In the first essay the author keeps in view the point that the face and the brain were developed collaterally, and the high perfection of the face in man is due to his high brain development. The second essay is a contribution toward finding a scientific basis for the study of physiognomy and expression. Some of the varieties of feature of the human face are traced back to their animal origin, and the inheritance of emotional expression from the lower animals is touched upon. The essay is based on the facts of both phylogeny and ontogeny, and is an excellent synopsis of what has been written on the subject, to which several important original thoughts are added.

The Ground Squirrels of the Mississippi Valley.—In a paper recently published by the United States Department of Agriculture, Mr. Vernon Bailey describes the food habits and distribution of the five species of Spermophilus found in the Mississippi Valley. In addition, he summarizes the best methods of holding them in check, the preference being given to the use of bisulphide of carbon. The essay is handsomely illustrated. (Bull. No. 4, Div. Ornith. Mam. U. S. Dept. Agri., 1893.)

Zoological News.—Three new species of Annelids from the New Jersey coast are described and figured by Mr. J. P. Moore. *Clymnella elongata,* a tube dweller; *Eulalia lobulata,* so-called from the lobulated appearance of the peculiar tentacular appendages; and *Eracia brevicornis.* (Contributions Zool. Lab. Univ. Penna., Vol. I, 1893.

In a report on the Aquatic Invertebrate Fauna of Wyoming and Montana, Mr. S. A. Forbes describes and figures several new species and varieties. The list comprises 5 Cladocera, 1 Ostracoda, 8 Copepoda, 2 Rotifera and 1 Protozoa. The investigation of this fauna was made with a view to stocking the lakes of Yellowstone Park with game-fishes. During the years 1890 and '91, 66 localities were visited, and the material gathered amounted to 460 collection numbers. (Bull. U. S. Fish Commissioners for 1891).

VERTEBRATA.—The Zool. Dept. of the Michigan Agri. Exp. Station has issued an illustrated list of the Birds of that State prepared by Mr. A. J. Cook. The author has adopted the arrangement of the Am. Ornith. Union, and has appended, in parenthesis, the number of the species as given in Coues' Key and Check-List. A résumé of the species show that the bird fauna of Michigan includes the Boreal, the Transition and the Sonoran. The large lakes attract many birds that are usually maritime, while the prairies and woodlands in the southern part of the State afford a habitat for the prairie birds and a long list of woodland warblers. All species of doubtful occurrence have been excluded from the list. So far as observation permits, the author has given the food habits of the species described. An extensive bibliography appended to the introduction adds to its value to the Ornithologist.

Mr. Gerrit S. Miller calls attention to the rediscovery of the gopher —*Thomomys bulbivorus*—at Beaverton, Oregon. This animal, described sixty years ago by Richardson under the name *Diplostoma bulbivorum,* has been entirely unknown to naturalists until the present day. (Proceeds. Biol. Soc. Wash., Aug., 1893).